

REMARKS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the further action dated 8 September 2009, and has carefully considered the rejections therein.

Claims 1-3, 5-12, and 14-18 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keyworth II et al. (US 5579472) (“Keyworth”) in view of DeCarmo (USPA 20040010808) (“DeCarmo”). Claims 4 and 13 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keyworth and DeCarmo, in further view of Dong et al. (US 6571275) (“Dong”). The Applicant notes that rejections based on Schmidt Jr. et al., U.S. Patent No. 6778642, have been withdrawn.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of all claims for the reasons set out below.

The cited references do not provide the claimed “ordered listing of message body fragments”

Independent claims 1 and 10 each recite, in part (emphasis added):

displaying, on a user interface of the communications device, an ordered listing of message body fragments from each of said retrieved messages in a single view

The cited combination of Keyworth and DeCarmo fails to provide this feature. In the Detailed Action, it is argued that because Keyworth discloses “displaying information fields about the message and DeCarmo discloses “an instant message system and displaying a part of the message (or body fragment)”, it would have been obvious to “provide body fragments in the information fields of the modified Keyworth as taught by DeCarmo”.

The Applicant submits that if Keyworth were to be modified in this manner, the result would not be the claimed product or method. Keyworth discloses an “incoming message queue 111” (Keyworth, col. 8, lines 26-28), but that “queue” does not comprise message content. Keyworth clearly illustrates that message body content (“the text of the message”) is to be displayed only in a single area (see, for example, information window 112 in Figure 10 of Keyworth). The message body content displayed in that single area only displays the content of the message that

is selected using the computer's pointing device (Keyworth, col. 8, lines 35-37; col. 7, lines 21-24). It does not display message content for more than one message.

DeCarmo only adds that the content of an instant message may be displayed.

Therefore, modifying Keyworth with the teachings of DeCarmo *results in the same system that Keyworth already provides*: a system in which the content of a single message is displayed to the user, when that message is selected. If DeCarmo adds anything to Keyworth, it adds instant messages to the types of messages that may be displayed in Keyworth.

This is not the product or method recited in the currently pending claims, which requires “an ordered listing of message body fragments from each of said retrieved messages in a single view” (emphasis added). Only the content of a single message is displayed in the modified Keyworth-DeCarmo system proposed in the Detailed Action.

Therefore, for at least this reason, the claims are patentable over the cited art, whether taken alone or in combination.

The cited references do not display “message body fragments” from a user of the device

With specific reference to claims 9 and 18, the cited references do not provide a product or method comprising the limitations of these claims.

Claims 9 and 18 depend on claims 8 and 17, respectively. Claims 8 and 17 recite that the “message body fragments” as “associated with retrieved messages from a plurality of individuals”. Claims 9 and 18 recite the further limitation that this “plurality of individuals” comprises “a user associated with the communications device.” In other words, the “message body fragments” include those that are associated with messages from the device user.

This is not disclosed in either Keyworth or DeCarmo at all, even when combined to produce a modified system. The Detailed Action points out Figure 10 of Keyworth, which identifies the sender of a message and the type of communication. Of note is that every figure in Keyworth discloses *either* a set of incoming messages *or* outgoing messages, *not both together in a single view*. The messages of the actual user in Keyworth—the person operating Keyworth's

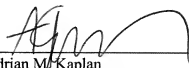
computer—are not displayed in the same view as the messages received from others. It is thus impossible for Keyworth, even when modified by DeCarmo, to provide a method or product in which a “conversational paradigm” (to take the wording of the present application at paragraph [0047]) is presented to the user. The user only ever sees messages sent in one direction, not both.

Therefore, for this additional reason, claims 9 and 18 are patentable over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the above submissions, the Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Allowance of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

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Adrian M. Kaplan
Registration No. 43396
Customer No. 38735
Tel: 647.288.9531

JLW:lf